

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims on file with the following list of claims:

1. (Original) A glitter marking instrument comprising:

a barrel having a front portion;

a liquid mixture of ink and glitter, said ink/glitter mixture is stored within said barrel;

a nib for receiving said ink/glitter mixture to effectuate a writing on a chosen surface, said nib being housed partially within said front portion of said barrel and a portion of said nib protrudes outwardly from within said front portion of said barrel, said nib is axially movable within said front end of said barrel, said nib having an outer surface; and

wherein when said nib has pressure exerted upon it to move said nib axially inward further within said front portion of said barrel the said ink/glitter mixture stored within said barrel flows to said nib, said ink portion of said ink/glitter mixture saturates said nib, said glitter portion of said ink/glitter mixture is not absorbable by said nib but instead goes around the outer surface of said nib to create a decorative glitter effect around said outer surface of said nib.

2. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1 further comprising an ink/glitter control assembly for regulating the supply of said ink/glitter mixture stored within said barrel to said nib, said ink/glitter control assembly is located within said barrel between said storage area for said ink/glitter mixture and said nib, said ink supply assembly acts as barrier to the flow of ink/glitter mixture from its storage area within said barrel to said nib when said marking instrument is not in use, said ink control assembly system is operatively connected to said nib such that when a sufficient pressure is applied to said nib said nib retracts axially inward further within said front portion of the barrel to cause displacement of said ink/glitter control assembly upward, creating an open passageway between said storage area for said ink/glitter mixture and said nib, thereby allowing said ink/glitter mixture to flow from said storage area through said passageway to said nib.

3. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, further comprising an end cap removably attached over said front portion of said barrel to cover said nib when the marking instrument is not in use.

4. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 3, wherein said barrel and said end cap are each composed of plastic material.

5. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 3, wherein said end cap has at least one viewing window in an exterior side wall of said end cap for a user to able view into the marker and see the nib of the marking instrument.
6. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 3, wherein an exterior surface of said barrel and an exterior surface of said end cap each have decorative glitter designed thereon.
7. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, wherein said glitter marking instrument is a glitter magic marker.
8. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, wherein said nib is tubular shaped.
9. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, wherein said nib is composed of felt material.
10. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, wherein the said ink portion of said ink/glitter mixture is of the color selected from the group consisting of red, green and purple.
11. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, wherein said color of said glitter marking instrument is selected from the group consisting of red, green and purple.
12. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 1, further comprising at least one mixing ball located within said barrel to assist in the mixing of the ink/glitter mixture.
13. (Original) A glitter marking instrument comprising:
 - a barrel having a front end;
 - a cone shaped nose portion housed partially within said front end of said barrel;
 - a reservoir for storing a liquid mixture of ink and glitter, said reservoir is located in said barrel;

a nib housed partially within said cone shaped nose portion of said front end of said barrel and a portion of said nib protrudes outwardly from within cone shaped nose portion, said nib is axially movable within said cone shaped nose portion, said nib having an outer surface;

an ink/glitter control assembly for regulating the supply of said ink/glitter mixture from said reservoir to said nib, said ink/glitter assembly acts as a barrier to the flow of said mixture to said nib when said marking instrument is not in use, said ink/glitter supply assembly comprises a valve member and a spring, said valve member has a central body portion, a thin tubular rear end and a dome shaped front end, said spring is mounted on said tubular rear end of said valve and said spring urges against said body of said valve member;

an elongated rod member attached to a rear end of said nib, said elongated member extends upward from said nib with an upper portion of said elongated member being housed within said valve member through an opening in said dome shaped front end of said valve member; said rod member is slidable axially within said barrel in response to axial movement of said nib;

a tubular ink/glitter control assembly housing having an upper portion, a lower portion and top cover, said top cover covers said upper portion of said tubular housing, said ink/glitter control assembly housing houses said ink/glitter assembly in its entirety, with the exception of a portion of said tubular rear end of said valve member which protrudes outwardly from said ink/supply housing through an opening provided in said top cover of said assembly housing, when said nib is not being pressed against a writing surface then an outer periphery of said domed shaped front portion of said valve member of said ink/glitter control assembly engages with side walls of tubular ink/glitter control assembly housing forming a barrier to prevent the ink/glitter control assembly housing from flowing out through the ink/glitter control assembly housing into the front nose portion of the barrel to reach the nib, said spring exerts a downward pressure on said valve member to maintain the outer periphery of said domed shaped front portion of valve member in locking engagement with said side walls of the ink/glitter control assembly housing; and

whereby when said nib of said marking instrument is pressed against a writing surface to effectuate a writing said nib moves axially inward further into the interior of the front nose portion of the barrel to cause said elongated rod member to exert an upward pressure on the valve member of the ink/glitter control assembly, which in turn causes an upward pressure onto said spring sufficient to compress said spring causing the valve member to move upward dislodging the domed shaped front portion of the valve member from engagement with said walls of said ink/glitter control housing and thereby creating an open channel within said ink/glitter assembly housing, said ink/glitter mixture flows through said open channel in said ink/glitter control assembly housing and into the interior of the front nose portion to the nib, said ink portion of said ink/glitter mixture saturates said nib, said glitter portion of said ink/glitter mixture is not absorbable by said nib but instead goes around the outer surface of said nib to create a decorative glitter effect around said outer surface of said nib.

14. (Original) The glitter making instrument of claim 13, further comprising a sponge mounted on a lower portion of said rod member, adjacent said nib, to absorb any excess of said ink/glitter mixture traveling to said nib, in order to prevent the marker from dripping any excess ink/glitter.

15. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 13, wherein a portion of the ink supply housing is housed within said front nose portion of said barrel.

16. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 13, further comprising an end cap removably attached over said cone shaped nose portion of said barrel to cover said nib when the marking instrument is not in use.

17. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 13 further comprising at least one steel mixing ball located within said barrel to assist in the mixing of the ink/glitter mixture.

18. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 13, wherein said glitter marking instrument is a glitter magic marker.

19. (Original) The glitter marking instrument of claim 13, wherein said nib is made of felt material.

20. (Withdrawn) A method for creating a decorative glitter effect around the nib of a marking instrument comprising:

shaking said marking instrument, wherein said marking instrument comprises a barrel having a front portion, a liquid mixture of ink and glitter, said ink/glitter mixture is stored within said barrel, a nib housed partially within said front portion of said barrel and a portion of said nib protrudes outwardly from within said front portion of said barrel, said nib is axially movable within said front end of said barrel aid, said nib having an outer surface;

pressing said nib against a writing surface drawing some of said ink/glitter mixture stored within said barrel of said making instrument in contact with said nib, said glitter portion of said ink/glitter mixture is not absorbable by said nib so it goes around the goes around the outer surface of said nib to create a decorative glitter effect around said outer surface of said nib; and

removing said nib from said writing surface when finished using said marking instrument.